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Forest Service News



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Claude R. Elton Named Deputy Regional Forester

Claude R. Elton has been named deputy regional forester for administration for the Pacific Northwest Region of USDA Forest Service, effective October 19, according to Regional Forester R.E. Worthington.

Elton replaces Donald H. Morton, who has accepted a position as director of the USDA Computer Center in Fort Collins, Colorado. George Breitmeier, director of fiscal management for the Region, will serve as acting deputy regional forester for administration until Elton's arrival, Worthington said.

Elton has been deputy regional forester for administration in the Forest Service's Intermountain Region, Ogden, Utah, since 1975.

He began his Forest Service career in 1961, working as administrative assistant at the Alaska Regional Office, Juneau. He worked as administrative officer on the North Tongass National Forest in Alaska from 1962 to 1966 when he transferred to the Custer National Forest, Billings, Montana. He later worked in Missoula, Montana, as staff accountant in fiscal control for the Forest Service's Northern Region. From 1971 to 1973 he worked in Washington, D.C., as an accountant in the Office of Budget and Finance and the Forest Service fiscal and accounting office.

In 1973 he transferred to the USDA's National Finance Center in New Orleans, and joined the Intermountain Region as director of fiscal management the following year.

A native of Galata, Montana, Elton is a 1950 graduate of the University of Montana in business administration. He served with the U.S. Navy during World War II and the Korean conflict. He and his wife Shirley have four sons and one daughter.

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